VZCZCXRO0551 PP RUEHFK DE RUEHKO #1021 0680702 ZNR UUUUU ZZH P 090702Z MAR 07 FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1418 RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY RUCPDOC/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY RUYNAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY RUALSFJ/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 0140 RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 3640 RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 6061 RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1540 RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 2151 RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 3488 RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - JAPAN-DPRK Talks in HANOI -

TOKYO

LEAD STORIES: Most Friday morning papers front-paged Thursday's completion of the two-day Japan-DPRK normalization talks in Hanoi, noting that there was no progress on the abduction front.

¶1. "Don't Let North Korea Have Its Way" The topcirculation, moderate Yomiuri editorialized (3/9): "If the just-ended two-day Japan-DPRK normalization talks in Hanoi are any indication, future negotiations will see many ups and downs.... Japan cannot normalize relations with North Korea without resolving the abductions, which trampled on the nation's sovereignty, and it must also urge Pyongyang to abandon its nuclear and missile programs, which threaten the nation's security.... North Korea's stance throughout the two days of meetings was extremely insincere. The DPRK appears to be trying to drive a wedge between Japan and the other countries involved in the six-party talks.... As the international net around North Korea appears to have loosened, North Korea may be trying to contrast its stalled talks with Japan and its 'constructive' talks with the US to give the impression that it is Japan that stands in the way of progress in the six-party talks.

SCHIEFFER